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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/092,676	03/12/2002	Keishi Ikeda	21334-1125	8217

7590 07/25/2002

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EXAMINER

LEON, EDWIN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

DATE MAILED: 07/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/092,676

Applicant(s)

IKEDA ET AL.

Examiner

Edwin A. León

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3/12/02 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," "Disclosed is", etc.

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

- (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
- (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

Art Unit: 2833

4. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nishimura (U.S. Patent No. 6,398,567). With regard to Claim 1, Nishimura discloses a card connector comprising: an insulative housing (6) with a plurality of contacts (4) for receiving a card (1); a slider (10,11) slidably mounted in the housing (6) capable of assuming an ejection position (Fig. 10) for ejecting the card (1) from the housing (6) and a card receiving position (Fig. 12) for receiving the card (1) in the housing (6); a lock member (16) held by the slider (10,11) for engaging a cutout (17a) on a lateral edge of the card (1) to lock the card (1) in the card receiving position (Fig. 12) the lock member (16) comprises a fixed end portion (20) fixed on the slider (10,11); a positioning mechanism (18) for positioning the slider (10,11) in the ejection position (Fig. 10) and the card receiving position (Fig. 12); a free end portion (15) being supported by contacting a support surface (Fig. 13, surface where 15 is located) of the housing (6) when in the card receiving position (Fig. 12) and being separated from the support surface (Fig. 13, surface where 15 is located) when in the ejection position (Fig. 10); and a spring piece (29) with an engagement protrusion (31) for engaging the cutout (17a); wherein when the slider (10,11) is in the ejection position (Fig. 10), the free end portion (15) flexes to disengage the engagement with the cutout (17a) of the card (1) by the extraction of the card (1); and when the slider (10,11) is in the card receiving position (Fig. 12), the free end portion (15) elastically deforms while contacting the support surface (Fig. 13, surface where 15 is located) to disengage the engagement with the cutout (17a) by the forced extraction of the card (1). See Figs. 1-3, and 10-16.

With regard to Claim 2, Nishimura discloses the free end portion (15) of the lock member (16) being a tongue (15) for contacting the support surface (Fig. 13, surface where 15 is located); the engagement protrusion (31) engages with the engagement surface of the lock member (16); the tongue piece (15) and the engagement surface are disposed closer to one side in the width direction of the spring piece (29); and the engagement protrusion (31) elastically deforms in a twisting manner around the fixed end portion (20) when it receives the forced extraction force to disengage the engagement with the cutout (17a). See Figs. 1-3, and 10-16.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Choi (U.S. Patent No. 5,740,012), Nishioka (U.S. Patent No. 6,270,365), David et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,890,920), and Bricaud et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,382,995) disclose card connectors having sliders, locking members and positioning mechanisms.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (703) 308-6253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)

Art Unit: 2833

308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Edwin A. Leon
AU 2833

EAL
July 16, 2002